

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original): A polarizing plate with an optical compensation film, comprising a polarizing plate, an adhesive layer A, an optical compensation film, and an adhesive layer B, laminated to one another,

wherein the polarizing plate comprises a polyvinyl alcohol polarizing film containing a dichroic substance, and

wherein an elastic modulus of the adhesive layer A is not greater than 0.06 Mpa.

2. (Original): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 1, wherein the elastic modulus of the adhesive layer A is at least 0.02 MPa and at most 0.05 MPa.

3. (Original): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 1, wherein the elastic modulus of the adhesive layer B is at least 0.08 MPa.

4. (Original): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 3, wherein the elastic modulus of the adhesive layer B is at least 0.09 MPa and at most 0.12 MPa.

5. (Original): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 1, wherein both the adhesive layer A and the adhesive layer B are adhesive agents comprising an acrylic resin.

6. (Original): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 1, wherein both the adhesive layer A and the adhesive layer B have a thickness in a range of at least 10 μ m to at most 40 μ m.

7. (Original): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 1, wherein a triacetyl cellulose film is formed integrally with at least one surface of the polarizing film.

8. (Original): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 1, wherein the optical compensation film comprises a film with an oriented liquid crystal polymer.

9. (Original): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 1, wherein a triacetyl cellulose film is formed integrally with at least one surface of the optical compensation film.

10. (Previously presented): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 1, wherein at least one selected from the group consisting of a reflecting plate, a semitransparent reflector, a retardation plate, a λ plate, and a brightness enhancement film is further laminated to the polarizing plate.

11. (Original): A liquid crystal display, comprising:

a liquid cell; and

a polarizing plate with an optical compensation film on at least one side of the liquid crystal cell, the polarizing plate with the optical compensation film comprising a polarizing plate, an adhesive layer A, an optical compensation film, and an adhesive layer B, laminated to one another;

wherein the polarizing plate comprises a polyvinyl alcohol polarizing film containing a dichroic substance, and

wherein an elastic modulus of the adhesive layer A is not greater than 0.06 MPa.

12. (Original): The liquid crystal display according to claim 11, wherein the elastic modulus of the adhesive layer A is at least 0.02 MPa and at most 0.05 MPa.

13. (Original): The liquid crystal display according to claim 11, wherein the elastic modulus of the adhesive layer B is at least 0.08 MPa.

14. (Original): The liquid crystal display according to claim 13, wherein the elastic modulus of the adhesive layer B is at least 0.09 MPa and at most 0.12 MPa.

15. (Original): The liquid crystal display according to claim 11, wherein both the adhesive layer A and the adhesive layer B are adhesive agents comprising an acrylic resin.

16. (Original): The liquid crystal display according to claim 11, wherein both the adhesive layer A and the adhesive layer B have a thickness in a range of at least 10 μm to at most 40 μm .

17. (Original): The liquid crystal display according to claim 11, wherein a triacetyl cellulose film is formed integrally with at least one surface of the polarizing film.

18. (Original): The liquid crystal display according to claim 11, wherein the optical compensation film comprises a film with an oriented liquid crystal polymer.

19. (Original): The liquid crystal display according to claim 11, wherein a triacetyl cellulose film is formed integrally with at least one surface of the optical compensation film.

20. (Previously presented): The liquid crystal display according to claim 11, wherein at least one selected from the group consisting of a reflecting plate, a semitransparent reflector, a retardation plate, a λ plate, and a brightness enhancement film is laminated to the polarizing plate.

21. (Previously presented): A polarizing plate with an optical compensation film, comprising a polarizing plate, an adhesive layer A, and an optical compensation film, laminated to one another, wherein an elastic modulus of the adhesive layer A is not greater than 0.06 MPa.

22. (Previously presented): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 21, wherein the elastic modulus of the adhesive layer A is at least 0.02 MPa and

at most 0.05 Mpa.

23. (Previously presented): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 21, further comprising an adhesive layer B laminated to the polarizing plate with an optical compensation film.

24. (Previously presented): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 23, wherein the elastic modulus of the adhesive layer B is at least 0.08 MPa.

25. (Previously presented): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 23, wherein the elastic modulus of the adhesive layer B is at least 0.09 MPa and at most 0.12 MPa.

26. (Previously presented): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 21, wherein both the adhesive layer A is adhesive agents comprising an acrylic resin.

27. (Previously presented): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 23, wherein the adhesive layer B is adhesive agents comprising an acrylic resin.

28. (Previously presented): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 21, wherein the adhesive layer A has a thickness in a range of at least 10 μm to at most 40 μm .

29. (Previously presented): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 23, wherein the adhesive layer B has a thickness in a range of at least 10 μm to at most 40 μm .

30. (Previously presented): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 21, wherein a triacetyl cellulose film is formed integrally with at least one

surface of the polarizing film.

31. (Previously presented): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 21, wherein the optical compensation film comprises a film with an oriented liquid crystal polymer.

32. (Previously presented): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 21, wherein a triacetyl cellulose film is formed integrally with at least one surface of the optical compensation film.

33. (Previously presented): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 21, wherein at least one element selected from the group consisting of a reflecting plate, a semitransparent reflector, a retardation plate, a λ plate, and a brightness enhancement film is further laminated to the polarizing plate.

34. (Currently amended): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 32 33, wherein the at least one element is a reflecting plate.

35. (Currently amended): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 32 33, wherein the at least one element is a semitransparent reflector.

36. (Currently amended): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 32 33, wherein the at least one element is a retardation plate.

37. (Currently amended): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 32 33, wherein the at least one element is a λ plate.

38. (Currently amended): The polarizing plate with an optical compensation film according to claim 32 33, wherein the at least one element is a brightness enhancement plate.

39. (Previously presented): A liquid crystal display, comprising:

a liquid cell; and

an polarizing plate with an optical compensation film on at least one side of the liquid crystal cell, the polarizing plate with an optical compensation film comprising a polarizing plate, an adhesive layer A, and an optical compensation film, laminated to one another, wherein an elastic modulus of the adhesive layer A is not greater than 0.06 MPa.

40. (Currently amended): The liquid crystal display according to claim 38 39, wherein the elastic modulus of the adhesive layer A is at least 0.02 MPa and at most 0.05 MPa.

41. (Currently amended): The ~~polarizing plate~~ liquid crystal display with an optical compensation film according to claim 38 39, further comprising an adhesive layer B laminated to the polarizing plate with an optical compensation film.

42. (Currently amended): The ~~polarizing plate~~ liquid crystal display with an optical compensation film according to claim 40 41, wherein the elastic modulus of the adhesive layer B is at least 0.08 MPa.

43. (Currently amended): The ~~polarizing plate~~ liquid crystal display with an optical compensation film according to claim 40 41, wherein the elastic modulus of the adhesive layer B is at least 0.09 MPa and at most 0.12 MPa.

44. (Currently amended): The ~~polarizing plate~~ liquid crystal display with an optical compensation film according to claim 38 39, wherein both the adhesive layer A is adhesive agents comprising an acrylic resin.

45. (Currently amended): The ~~polarizing plate~~ liquid crystal display with an optical compensation film according to claim 40 41, wherein the adhesive layer B is adhesive agents comprising an acrylic resin.

46. (Currently amended): The ~~polarizing plate~~ liquid crystal display with an optical compensation film according to claim 38 39, wherein the adhesive layer A has a thickness in a range of at least 10 μm to at most 40 μm .

47. (Currently amended): The ~~polarizing plate~~ liquid crystal display with an optical compensation film according to claim 40 41, wherein the adhesive layer B has a thickness in a range of at least 10 μm to at most 40 μm .

48. (Currently amended): The ~~polarizing plate~~ liquid crystal display with an optical compensation film according to claim 38 39, wherein a triacetyl cellulose film is formed integrally with at least one surface of the polarizing film.

49. (Currently amended): The ~~polarizing plate~~ liquid crystal display with an optical compensation film according to claim 38 39, wherein the optical compensation film comprises a film with an oriented liquid crystal polymer.

50. (Currently amended): The ~~polarizing plate~~ liquid crystal display with an optical compensation film according to claim 38 39, wherein a triacetyl cellulose film is formed integrally with at least one surface of the optical compensation film.

51. (Currently amended): The ~~polarizing plate~~ liquid crystal display with an optical compensation film according to claim 38 39, wherein at least one element selected from the group consisting of a reflecting plate, a semitransparent reflector, a retardation plate, a λ plate, and a brightness enhancement film is further laminated to the polarizing plate.

52. (Currently amended): The ~~polarizing plate~~ liquid crystal display with an optical compensation film according to claim 50 51, wherein the at least one element is a reflecting plate.

53. (Currently amended): The ~~polarizing plate~~ liquid crystal display with an optical

compensation film according to claim 50 51, wherein the at least one element is a semitransparent reflector.

54. (Currently amended): The ~~polarizing plate~~ liquid crystal display with an optical compensation film according to claim 50 51, wherein the at least one element is a retardation plate.

55. (Currently amended): The ~~polarizing plate~~ liquid crystal display with an optical compensation film according to claim 50 51, wherein the at least one element is a λ plate.

56. (Currently amended): The ~~polarizing plate~~ liquid crystal display with an optical compensation film according to claim 50 51, wherein the at least one element is a brightness enhancement plate.

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claims 34-38 and 40-56 have been amended to correct dependencies and claims 41-56 have been additionally amended to correct the preamble.

Claims 1-56 are pending in the present application. Independent claims 1 and 21, and claims 2-11 and 22-38 dependent directly or indirectly on claims 1 and 21, respectively, are directed to a polarizing plate. Independent claims 11 and 39, and claims 12-20 and 40-56 dependent directly or indirectly on claims 11 and 39, respectively, are directed to a liquid crystal display.

As a preliminary, Applicants' representative apologizes for the numbering error of the claims in the preliminary amendment. Thus, claims 25-55 have been renumbered 26-56 as pointed out in the Office Action. Further, the preamble of claims 40-56 has been corrected in accordance with claim 39, and dependencies have been modified accordingly.

In the Office Action, claims 1-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as anticipated by JP 2001-272542 to Saiki et al. (Saiki).

The rejection is respectfully traversed. Saiki is the publication of the prior Japanese application JP 2000-086761 (JP'761) corresponding to the present U.S. application. Priority of JP'761 is not claimed in the present application because JP'761 was filed on March 27, 2000 and the present application was filed on February 8, 2002, i.e., more than one year after the filing date of JP'761. Thus, Saiki is not "by another" as required in Section 102(a).

Specifically, it is submitted that the inventors of Saiki are the same as the inventors in the present application. In particular, Ms. Senri Yoshikawa changed her name to Senri Kondou due to marriage after the filing date of Saiki. A copy of the declaration by Ms. Senri Kondou filed in

co-pending U.S. Appln. S.N. 10/072,804 by Youchirou SUGINO et al. is submitted with this paper. It is submitted that the declaration evidences the change of name for the purpose of the present application as well. Accordingly, Saiki is removed as a reference against the present application.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the rejection should be withdrawn.

In conclusion, the invention as presently claimed is patentable. It is believed that the claims are in allowable condition and a notice to that effect is earnestly requested.

In the event there is, in the Examiner's opinion, any outstanding issue and such issue may be resolved by means of a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of the response period. Please charge the fee for such extension and any other fees which may be required to our Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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Encl.: Copy of Declaration by Ms. Senri Kondou